

CLAIMS

1. An air-bag in the form of a woven inflatable curtain, the inflatable curtain comprising at least two spaced-apart inflatable regions and an uninflatable region, the uninflatable region incorporating an expansion panel, the expansion panel having first and second outer fabric layers, the outer fabric layers being interconnected by an intermediate fabric layer extending from a first region where it merges with the first outer fabric layer to a second region where it merges with the second outer fabric layer, there being a first slit line formed in the first outer fabric layer between the first region and a first adjacent edge of the expansion panel, and there being a second slit line formed in the second outer fabric layer between the second region and a second adjacent edge of the expansion panel.

2. An air-bag according to Claim 1 further comprising a second intermediate layer extending between the first and the second outer fabric layers, the second intermediate layer extending from a third region where it merges from the first outer fabric layer between the first slit line and the first adjacent edge of the expansion panel and a forth region where the second intermediate layer merges with the second outer layer between the second region and the first adjacent edge and a third slit line formed in the first outer fabric layer between the third region and the first adjacent edge of the panel.

3. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first or second slit lines are in the form of a single slit.

4. An air-bag according to Claim 2 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a single slit.

5. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first or second slit lines are in the form of a perforated line of slits.

6. An air-bag according to Claim 2 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a perforated line of slits.

7. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a line formed with weak threads configured to rupture when a predetermined tension is applied to them.

8. An air-bag according to Claim 2 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a line formed with weak threads configured to rupture when a predetermined tension is applied to them.

9. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein the expansion panel is traversed by at least one tear seam.

10. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein the uninflatable region is located between and separates two of said spaced apart inflatable regions.

11. An air-bag according to Claim 1 wherein said uninflatable region is located between one of said inflated regions and a part of the air-bag configured for connection to an anchoring point.

12. An air-bag in the form of a woven inflatable curtain, the inflatable curtain comprising at least two spaced-apart inflatable regions and an uninflatable region, the uninflatable region incorporating an expansion panel, the expansion panel having first and second outer fabric layers, the outer fabric layers being interconnected by an a first intermediate fabric layer extending from a first region where it merges with the first outer fabric layer to a second region where it merges with the second outer fabric layer, a second intermediate layer extending between the first and the second outer fabric layers, the second intermediate layer extending from a third region where it merges from the first outer fabric layer and a forth region where the second intermediate layer merges with the second outer layer, there being a first slit line formed in the first outer fabric layer between the first region and the third region, and a second slit line formed in the second outer fabric layer between the second region and a first adjacent edge of the expansion panel, and a third slit line formed in the second outer fabric layer between the forth region and a second adjacent edge of the expansion panel.

13. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first or second slit lines are in the form of a single slit.

14. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a single slit.

15. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first or second slit lines are in the form of a perforated line of slits.

16. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a perforated line of slits.

17. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first, second slit or third slit lines are in the form of a line formed with weak threads configured to rupture when a predetermined tension is applied to them.

18. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein at least one of the first, second, or third slit lines are in the form of a line formed with weak threads configured to rupture when a predetermined tension is applied to them.

19. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein the expansion panel is traversed by at least one tear seam.

20. An air-bag according to Claim 12 wherein the uninflatable region is located between and separates two of said spaced apart inflatable regions.